

Summary of Meeting #4 (9/10/2014)

Mona Gahunia, DHMH Chief Medical Officer, opened the meeting by reviewing the process and timeline for the recommendations and overall report. The group devoted the entirety of meeting four to reviewing and revising the recommendations. Before meeting five, DHMH will provide the group with a ballot to vote on the recommendations (yes, no, abstain) and will share a draft of the report. The group will spend meeting five reviewing the outcome of the voting process and report. The report will be put out for a two week public comment period in early October. The group will reconvene after that time to review and respond to the public comments.

The remainder of the meeting was spent reviewing the recommendations developed during meeting three.

Recommendations

- To enhance the recommendations, the group identified the need for the following:
 - Information on Massachusetts's "cooling off" program/policy.
 - Information as to how hospitals/providers have implemented quality improvement processes (and lowered infant mortality rates throughout the state) and how we can expand upon the work further.
 - Information on the inherent risks of childbirth.
 - Information on the Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program.
 - Information on telemedicine when provided by out-of-state providers.
 - Context information on the CMS geographic formula recommendation.
- DHMH will incorporate this information into the recommendations before the voting process begins.

Next Meeting (9/23/2014):

- The Maryland Hospital Association (MHA) will provide additional information on the MHA birth injury fund task force before the next meeting, for inclusion in the final report.
- DHMH will present physician workforce data from HSIA.
- DHMH will review the outcome of the voting process.
- The group will review the draft workgroup report and offer feedback/edits.